

## HILLINGDON. Sources

10 bells in E flat, 22-1-18 in 1911. Gillett & Johnston Ltd. *Ringling peals*

West tower with cupola, built 1629. Tower brick faced with flint & stone. Peal board. Bells: ten. LMAS *Transactions* Vol. 18 part 2 entry 195

Miss C H Pratt. Ordinary ringing member. MCALDG *annual report* 1912

The cupola, which is also a feature of two other nearby churches, contains one bell which is no longer in use. We know from a petition in the Court of Requests, probably of the year 1559 against Lawrence Wright, bellfounder, of London, concerning a badly cast tenor bell, that in the reign of Queen Elizabeth there were five bells in the tower, but the first mention of bells in the surviving parish records dates from 1676 when new bell ropes cost "11s. 6d." In 1731 the six existing bells were made into eight at the cost of £500 at the charges of two parishioners, William Harrington, Yeoman, and Richard Ashley, Baker, who had to find sureties; but the bells appear to have been recast by Pack and Chapman of Whitechapel in 1776 and some were again recast by Wm. Mears of Whitechapel in 1787. In 1911 the old beams had become unsafe and were removed, being replaced by a steel bellframe and two more bells added, making a very fine peal of ten. The total weight of the peal is nearly four and three quarter tons, the tenor being a little over twenty-two hundredweight, Sit Clifford Radcliffe *Middlesex*.

The bells of Hillingdon. *Ringling world* April 6<sup>th</sup> 1945 p. 141. By J Armiger Trollope and based on his manuscript. [Copy in suspension file.](#)

St John-the-Baptist Hillingdon. *Ringling world* December 26<sup>th</sup> 1969 / January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1970 p. 1002. Cover article. [Copy in suspension file.](#)

- 1 G MEARS & Co FOUNDERS, LONDON, 1864
- 2 PACK & CHAPMAN OF LONDON FECERUNT  
JOHN WEST AND JOHN HANNINGTON CHURCH WARDENS 1779
- 3 As 3
- 4 T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1828  
THE VERY REV. R HODGSON VICAR  
T RATCLIFFE W SEAWARD CHURCHWARDENS
- 5 W & T MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1788  
MESSRS. ALLEN & SHACKLE CHURCHWARDENS
- 6 As 5
- 7 W & T MEARS, LATE LESTER, PACK & CHAPMAN, OF LONDON FECIT 1788
- 8 As 7

Clock bell on top of tower: ROBT WHITTINGTON & JOHN SHEPHERD CHURCHWARDENS 1808  
T MEARS & SON OF LONDON FECIT  
*Church bells* 6/09/1901 p. 840. "Within manuscript of H B Walters" [Copy in suspension file.](#)

Robert G J Dennis composed the appropriate number of changes, 5050 Stedman Triples, rung on Saturday October 22<sup>nd</sup> 1983 for the 50<sup>th</sup> Hillingdon Joint Meeting. The peal was Bernard H Taylor's 400<sup>th</sup> peal as conductor. The band comprised members of the four societies involved: Middlesex C.A., Oxford Diocesan Guild, London C.A. and Ladies' Guild. [Source? Possibly VP's own words based on RW or MCALDG report.](#)

Details of bells and transcription of peal boards. *Church bells* September 6<sup>th</sup> 1901 vol. 31 p. 840. [Copy in suspension file.](#)

[All slips transcribed. PN 2021](#)

1	25 ½"	4-0-26	(All by Gillett & Johnston 1911)
2	26 ½"	4-2-16	
3	28"	4-2-22	
4	29"	5-0-5	
5	31 3/16"	5-3-4	
6	33 7/16"	6-2-26	
7	37"	8-3-12	
8	39"	10-1-7	
9	44 1/8"	15-0-9	
10	49"	21-1-22	

Clock:

25" c 3 ½ cwt T Mears & Son 1808

Service? 1578 by W. Knight of Reading. Central Council for the Care of Churches: *Schedule of bells for preservation*.

Recast in 1776 by Pack & Chapman of Whitechapel Bell Foundry. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1779. 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and tenor 1788 by W & T Mears, 4<sup>th</sup> in 1864 by G Mears. Old ring recast in 1911 and augmented to ten. New fittings and iron H frame by Gillett & Johnston. *Ringing world* December 26<sup>th</sup> 1969 / January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1970 p. 1002 (cover article)

All slips transcribed. PN 2020.